

SENATE BILL 977

By Kyle

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 58, Chapter 2 and Title 67, Chapter 5, relative to property assessment.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 67-5-606, is amended by adding the following new subsections:

(c) Countywide emergency response frameworks must include assessors of property at the option of an assessor to monitor events related to disasters or emergencies that have affected or have the potential to affect the condition of real or personal property within individual assessors' jurisdictions.

(d) Assessors of property must be notified when county or municipal governments within their jurisdiction conduct FEMA preliminary damage assessments and must be provided copies of preliminary damage assessments upon request.

(e) If commercial and industrial tangible personal property is destroyed, demolished, or substantially damaged as a result of a disaster certified by FEMA, the annual assessment of such qualifying personal property in a FEMA-certified county must be prorated as otherwise provided in subsection (a), for the actual time the qualifying personal property is not replaced or restored notwithstanding that such personal property is replaced or restored by September 1, if the total time the qualifying personal property is not replaced or restored exceeds thirty (30) days. The owner shall apply for this relief to the assessor by September 1 of the following year using a form approved by the director of the state division of property assessments. Furthermore, the owner shall provide the assessor a listing of the destroyed, demolished, or substantially damaged

personal property for which the proration is sought. This subsection (e) has no effect as to a particular county or municipality unless approved by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the county legislative body following a disaster or other specified occurrence.

(f) Assessors of property have unrestricted rights in the performance of official duties to enter and inspect property within disaster areas to include all property subject to valuation having been affected or potentially affected by disaster or other related events.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 67-5-303(a), is amended by adding the following new subdivision:

(4) All records held, maintained, or created by county and municipal public agencies must be made available to assessors of property for the purposes of property valuation and all other official duties.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.